

Notice of Iowa Department of Human Services Public Comment Period for the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan

The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan is a new Medicaid program created to provide comprehensive health care coverage to low-income, uninsured Iowans ages 19 to 64 which began on January 1, 2014.

The Iowa Health and Wellness Plan is one program that includes two separate coverage options. Eligibility is based on household income.

- *Iowa Wellness Plan*: Covers adults ages 19 to 64 whose income is at or below 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. The Iowa Wellness Plan is administered by Iowa Medicaid. Members have access to the statewide Medicaid provider network which means they have access to care from providers and hospitals in their local communities.
- *Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan*: Covers adults age 19 to 64 with income from 101 percent through 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. The Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan allows members to select from participating commercial health care coverage plans available through the Health Insurance Marketplace. Medicaid pays the premiums to the commercial health plan on behalf of the member. Members have access to the network of local health care providers and hospitals served by the commercial insurance plan.

This notice provides details about the Department of Human Services' (DHS) request to extend the waiver of non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services in the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan. This serves as the **30-day public comment period, which closes October 13, at 4:30 pm.**

When CMS approved the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan waivers in December 2013, Iowa received a waiver to exclude NEMT services for all Iowa Health and Wellness Plan members who are not medically exempt. Waiver of this service was approved for CY2014. DHS is requesting that CMS permit DHS to continue the NEMT waiver until the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Interim Evaluation Report is finalized June 29, 2016. This will permit DHS the time needed to fully assess the impact of this waiver. This notice, the NEMT waiver amendment, and information about the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan is available at: <http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/about/iowa-health-and-wellness-plan/ihawp-fed-docs>.

Written comments may be addressed to Maggie Reilly, Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, 100 Army Post Road, Des Moines, IA 50315. Comments may also be sent to the attention of: **DHS, Iowa Health and Wellness Plan** at DHSIMEHealthandWellnesPlan@dhs.state.ia.us through October 13, 2014. The public, by contacting Maggie Reilly at the above address, may review comments received.

Submitted by:
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